

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend Claims 1 through 5 and 7, and add Claims 8 through 11 to read, as follows.

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1. (Currently Amended) A developing apparatus comprising:
a toner carrying member for carrying toner to a developing zone where said developing apparatus faces to an image bearing member; and
bias voltage applying means for applying to said toner carrying member a developing bias voltage for developing an electrostatic latent image formed on the image bearing member, wherein ~~said~~ the developing bias voltage is in the form of a DC voltage biased with an AC voltage ~~said~~;
wherein when a developing operation stops, rotation of said toner carrying member is stopped while rotating the image bearing member electrically charged, and then, the AC voltage is applied to said toner carrying member for a predetermined period of time, and thereafter, the AC voltage is stopped, in a condition in which regular-charge toner is ~~being~~ urged from said toner carrying member toward the image bearing member.

2. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein a waveform of the AC voltage crosses with a charged potential level of the image bearing member.

3. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 2, wherein the predetermined ~~said~~ period is not less than 50msec.

4. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to ~~Claim 1-3~~ Claims 1, 2, or 3, wherein application of the AC ~~DC~~ voltage is stopped substantially simultaneously with application of the DC voltage.

5. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the said developing bias voltage includes ~~comprises~~ a first peak voltage for forming a substantially constant electric field for urging the regular-charge toner from said toner carrying member toward the image bearing member, and a second peak voltage for forming a substantially constant electric field for urging the regular-charge toner from the image bearing member toward said toner carrying member, wherein the said AC voltage is stopped when the said first peak voltage is applied.

6. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein a charging polarity of the image bearing member is the same as a charging polarity of the regular-charge toner.

8. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said toner carrying member is comprises a cylindrical sleeve.

9. (New) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein during application of the DC bias voltage for the predetermined period and stopping of the DC bias voltage, said image bearing member is rotating.

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7. (New) An apparatus according to Claim 6, wherein during application of the DC bias voltage for the predetermined time and the stopping of the DC bias voltage, said image bearing member is rotating.

10. (New) An apparatus according to Claim 1 or 7, wherein during application of the DC bias voltage for the predetermined period and stopping of the DC bias voltage, a portion of said image bearing member, which is electrically charged to a same polarity as a polarity of the regular-charge toner passes through the developing zone.

11. (New) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein application of the DC voltage is stopped after application of DC voltage is stopped.--
